

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 3-15 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 12-15, withdrawn as a result of the March 21, 2003 restriction requirement have been canceled. The Examiner has indicated that claims 3, 4, and 8-11 contain patentable subject matter since these claims would be allowed if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base and intervening claims, as applicable. *Solely* to advance prosecution of certain embodiments of the present invention, Applicants have canceled claim 3 and incorporated its features into claim 1. In addition, Applicants have rewritten the features of claim 8 (containing patentable subject matter) into independent form as new claim 16, and amended claims 9-11 accordingly. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute broader claims, as well as the withdrawn claims in a continuation application.

Based on the amendments, Applicants understand that the application is in form for allowance, and request that the Examiner pass the application to issue as soon as possible.

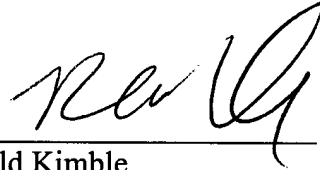
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)  
U.S. Application No. 10/091,528

Atty. Docket No. Q68862

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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**23373**

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